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Newsletter Number 8 25 March 2011



Website www.matarau.school.nz

Phone / Fax (09) 433 5823 **Email** – admin@matarau.school.nz

Thanks

... A big thank you to Midastiles for donation of tiles for our Room 9 Mosaic Project.

.. Those parents who managed to get to last nights after camp BBQ. Obviously a camp to be remembered.

.. To our Lit Quiz parent support team.

People of the week

.. Samantha - who stood in for someone at the last minute who couldn't do the Relay for Life and did 57 laps (equivalent to $\frac{1}{2}$ marathon)

.. Georgia who won another 9 ribbons at Waitotira Pony Club ribbon day and Ellie won a 1st and a 3rd. Way to go girls.

..Christine and Aimee for picking up rubbish on the sidewalk in the afternoons on the way home.

..Bradley and Liam who waited patiently for a parent to retrieve their ball from under a car, instead of just running and getting it. They were also very polite and the parent was very impressed with how responsible they were.

.. To those children who participated in the Interschool Triathlon. Well done! Results to follow next week.

.. Our Lit Quiz teams for excellent performances at this week's Lit Quiz practice run at Whangarei Intermediate School. One of our teams actually won first place. Good luck for the big event next Friday.

.. Max, Calum & Euan and Reuben & Scott all competed in the Northland Athletics Championships at Kensington Park last weekend. An exciting first equal finish between Euan and Scott in the 100m final and all athletes finished with high placings in all events in which they took part. Well done team!

.. One of the parents attending yesterdays triathlon recieved a lovely comment from one of the other spectators - they noted that all the Matarau kids supported and cheered for one another and it was wonderful to see them so supportive and encouraging of one another. Congratulations to the team who went out to Ruakaka for displaying again how great Matarau school and its kids are by being such great sports. We are very proud of you all.

..Congratulations to Grace who has been selected for the NZ Badminton Academy Development Squad.

Trail Bike Ride

A reminder that the Trail Bike Ride is scheduled for Sunday 3 April - registration on the day. This is a great family day and so please support by spreading the word among family and friends and by attending on the day. If you have some time to spare, and can help on the day, please give Alastair Rickey a call on 4355509. Details at the end of the newsletter.

Visiting Author - Rosie Boom

The visit was a huge success and thoroughly enjoyed by all. The books "Where the Lions Roar" and "Where the Arrows Fly" are available for purchase for \$20 ea. Orders and payment to the office by Friday 1 April please. Rosie Boom will then autograph all books when they are delivered to school.

Matarau School Recipe Book

As a fundraiser we would like to publish a Matarau School recipe book. Please could you email faithfull.family@extra.co.nz with your favourite recipe or pop a hard copy in to Helen at the office and we will compile a book. Kids are encouraged to be involved too. Who knows we may find NZ's next Master Chef amongst us!

Hand Towels

As we near the winter terms (and the accompanying cold and flu season) we need to do all we can to encourage healthy practices here at school. Proper hand washing (and drying) are an important part of this. Children are supplied with liquid soaps in all of the toilets (and classrooms) and warm water for hand washing is being phased in also. As in earlier years parents are asked to put a hand towel in their child's bag each week which they can use after washing their hands (because obviously shared towels are not a good idea). Some parents also place hand sanitizers in their child's lunchbox for them to use before eating.

School Vegetable Garden

We have been approached by an enthusiastic parent who would like to create a Gardening Club here at school. The intention would be to mentor a small group of motivated children, to teach some important life skills, and to profile the benefits of growing vegetables to the wider school. We do have a school garden but this lies somewhat neglected for much of the year. If you are willing to assist in some way with a Garden Club (perhaps an afternoon a week - Tuesday or Wednesday good days but can be flexible) then please contact Kevin at school or Lisa Jones on 4356199 (027 258 9663). You would get plenty of support.

School Choir

Interested children will shortly receive an invitation to join our school choir. This is an opportunity to learn some songs, sing with other keen children, mix with other schools and participate in public performances. This opportunity comes only every second year. If you would like your child to participate in choir, and they have not brought an "expression of interest" form home, please contact Grace Williams here at school. The first off-site choir practice is 5 April and so we would need to hear from you next week. Questions please to Mrs Williams.

Rippa Rugby

Parents of children in years 3 to 6 will have received consent forms for Rippa Rugby Tournaments to be held on 15 April and 1 July. Both events will be held at the Tikipunga Sports ground - under way shortly after 10:00 AM and concluding around 2:00 PM. Children will travel to and from the venue by bus but parents are most welcome to support our teams on the days. Please ensure that children bring their lunch, warm clothing, sunhats and plenty to drink. Please return consent forms to your child's teacher next week. Any questions in the run up to this event to Miss Bevin please.

Bark Gardens

Shortly we will be spending a bit of time upgrading some of our bark gardens. If you have any miniature shrubs or other suitable plants we would be most grateful if you could drop these in to school.

Ruatangata Hall Roof

We have been advised by Ruatangata locals that some of our children have been (may have been) playing on the roof of the Ruatangata Hall. While we have contacted the parents of children we think MAY have been involved, we would be grateful if all parents who live in the vicinity of the hall could speak with their children and advise us promptly of any concerns. Those parents who have already been contacted have been fantastic.

Lit Quiz - 1 April

Thank you to those parents accompanying our team to the Northland Region Lit Quiz next Friday. A reminder you will need to depart at 8:30 AM as the competition starts at 10:00 AM. Any questions to Mr D please.

Special Needs Programmes

Please note that Mrs Comrie will be on leave next week. Programmes will resume on her return. Parents of children nominated for placement in term 2 will receive notice shortly.

International Schools English and Maths Competitions

Thank you to those who have requested registration for their children. Entries were sent to the University of New South Wales this week for processing. Please note that ..

- .. the English Exam will be held on Tuesday 2 August
- .. the Maths Exam will be held on Tuesday 16 August
- .. all year 8 students have been automatically entered (cost met by the school)
- .. issue of practice papers will commence around mid-way through term 2
- .. children will work on some test activities in their general classes starting soon
- .. the period for expression of interest in these competitions has now closed.

Interschool Triathlon - Year 7 and 8

Our students did incredibly well at this event which was held at One Tree Point yesterday. We do not have firm results to hand at present but will hopefully be able to share these with you next week.

Bus Children - High Visibility Vests

While the number of bus children wearing their high visibility vests has increased in recent weeks, it still falls well short of a majority. These vests are a significant step we can all take to raise the level of safety of those children while walking to and from (or waiting at) bus stops. **Please ensure your child has their vest on before they head off in the morning, and we will try our best to ensure they put it on at the end of the day.**

School Contributions / Trips and Events Fee

Payment requests were sent out this week to those who have yet to pay their school contribution and/or trips and events fee. Parents are asked to arrange payment within two weeks please or to contact the school office to discuss alternative payment arrangements. Fees can also be paid directly into the school bank account (available from the office). While the school contribution is voluntary (but appreciated), the events fee is a compulsory levy to subsidise the cost of buses, pay for visiting drama groups. Remember that we are more than happy to personalise payment arrangements where this is helpful.

North Fuels Sponsorship

If interested in sponsoring the school through this programme you can nominate our school by visiting Northfuels at www.northfuels.co.nz or on 0800 484 3543. Northfuels are happy to answer any questions you might have.

PMP

We would really appreciate further offers to assist with this important programme. If able to help please give Mrs Robertson a call. PMP takes place every Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon - even if you can help on one of these afternoons it enables us to give existing parent helpers the occasional break.

Reminder - ASB School Banking .. Please remind your children to ensure they drop their banking into the elephant in the Reception area as this is cleared weekly.

Buses

Quite often children advise us that their bus arrangements have changed and that they will be travelling on a different bus to a different destination. While our policy is to only allow changes where these have been requested by parents (by means noted below) we are aware that, if we enforce this policy, we could well be sending a child to a pick up point where there is no adult waiting for them. While this would mean we had technically done the right thing (as our policy requiring parent advice of changes is clear) this would give us no comfort if harm came to a child by rigid enforcement of this policy. Similar risks exist if we act on a child's instruction in the absence of confirming information from their parents. Sometimes a great deal of

time is wasted (and buses held up) while we seek confirmation from parents of last minute instructions from a child. It is thus absolutely imperative that parents ADVISE US IN ADVANCE OF ANY CHANGES TO USUAL BUS ARRANGEMENTS. This can be by phone, note in the morning, advance email to the school (admin@matarau.school.nz), or by leaving a voice message on a phone which is now dedicated for this purpose and which is checked every day prior to bus departure.

Mobile Ear Clinic .. Outside the Bush Road Medical Centre Wednesday 30 March. 8:30-3:30. No appointment necessary Pre-schoolers welcome.

Scholastic Books

Issue 2 was sent home this week. All orders and payments to be back at the office by Friday April 1st.

Community Notices

For Sale - Kunekune piglet, \$50 each. Call Cassandra 4335968.

For Sale - Round hay bales, \$60 each, Phone Dave 021731223

For Rent - Kamo West modern home. 7 minutes to Matarau School. 3 bed, huge private deck, single lockup garage and extra parking, fenced, pets by approval. Hirupaki School Zone, Available April 17, ph Hana 4350230 or 0274352786

Whangarei Roller Skating Club - Skate night, Sat 26 March 6.30-8.30pm, Portland Recreation Centre. McGill Rd, Theme Black and Red, Hire skates available, BYO socks, sausage sizzle, drinks & chippies.

Junior Tiger Golf Championship - Waipu Golf club, 11am tee off 27th March. Register online now at www.juniortiger.co.nz. The winner will represent NZ at the World Junior Golf Champs in the USA, including a trip to Disneyland with a family member.

House Cleaner Available - Reliable 17 yr old female Polytech Student, experienced with references available. Please phone Hannah 02102771725

Porse Approved Caretaker - for 3mths to 5 yrs old children. 200 mtrs from Matarau School, 20 hrs free for 3 yrs and up. Ph Annemari Diederiks on 0211413221.

Zumba Classes - Tuesday night 7pm, Matarau School Hall, \$10 per class or concession cards available. For more info please contact Annette Brown on 0275505000.

School Newsletter .. If you would like to receive this by email contact us on admin@matarau.school.nz

Virtues 2011

Thank you to those people who sent in their virtues votes. Results are as follows (focus virtues for 2011 are in bold type). We look forward to exploring these virtues together (2 per term) in terms 2 through 4.

	Votes		Votes
Compassion	10	Kindness	9
Courtesy	3	Loyalty	1
Faithfulness	1	Respect	9
Helpfulness	11	Tact	3
Justice	2	Trustworthiness	9
Truthfulness	11	Forgiveness	6

Skids After School Programme

Kia Ora, Skids will be offering a fun filled after school care programme during 2011. Please register your interest by ringing or txt Erena Koopu on 0278461724. Alternatively pop into the hall after school to find out more information.



Skids offer safe and reliable after school care with a focus on a well structured, balanced programme offering fun activities to your school for your children, giving parent's and caregiver's peace of mind

Finally

Why should a school not be located near a chicken farm? To avoid the pupils overhearing fowl language.

Regards
Kevin Trehwella
PRINCIPAL

Our Sponsors support your
children, please support them

WHANGAREI
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445 Kamo Road, Kamo,
Whangarei
Telephone 09 435 2299
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Kensington Gym Clinic

TUPPERWARE FUNDRAISER

I am pleased to inform all you lovely Matarau families that I am your new Tupperware demonstrator and have a fabulous promotion that Tupperware is running to assist families hit hard by the recent Christchurch earthquakes.

Basically I will be leaving Tupperware brochures and order forms at the school office, which you can take away with you or look at there, and you can submit orders for Tupperware from the comfort of home. The benefit to earthquake victims is for every promotion held, Tupperware is donating cash to the Earthquake Appeal (with the goal of raising \$250,000) AND for every \$500 worth of sales to Matarau School families, I can order a "Recovery Pack", worth \$321, which can be sent to a Christchurch family of choice or donated anonymously to someone in need in Christchurch.

The other benefit is to Matarau School - all the gifts earned by the school from sales will be retained by the school to use as a raffle fundraiser or maybe as a prize in the annual Trivia Night fundraiser.

So look out for the brochures at the office, give me a call or email, and I can send one by email, just send in those orders!! I will be taking orders from Monday 28th March up til Wednesday 6th April.

Many thanks

Michele Blagrove

Home 4335 735, Mobile 027 6100 303, email duckgrove@ihug.co.nz

Friday Lunches



Don't forget to
order on **Wednesday**
for Friday

Filled Rolls now available as well as the hot pies and sausage rolls. Orders need to be at the office by Wednesday to receive a lunch on Friday. This is a fundraising venture for the school and any profit is directed towards the children of the school. Any queries please call the office.

Sausage Roll, Mince Pie, Big Daddy with Drink \$4.00 Ham/Salad Rolls with Drink \$4.50
NEW!!!! Ham Sandwich/roll - no salad with Drink \$3.50